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62.41

*Gladiolus*

## Retail Price List 1947

Buy Benson's Better Bulbs for Finer Flowers

### GEO. C. BENSON

Grower and Hybridist

Swartz Creek, Mich.

Phone 4-1

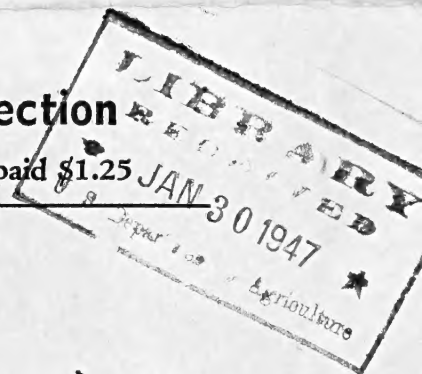
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## Golden Glory Garden Collection

25 Large Selected Bulbs, All Colors, Prepaid \$1.25



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# GEO. C. BENSON

CORNER HILL AND MORRISH ROADS

Just 1 Mile South of Swartz Creek

**Greetings:** To all friends and Glad fans. All the requests that have been coming in for weeks and months are certainly appreciated and I hope this will reach you in time for "Glad" planning. In this first full season since the War help here has been just about impossible to find at any price, but we have tried our best to get into stride again and have succeeded in building up somewhat on the better and newer varieties; however this year again all goes to regular customers. No jobbers list.

Now a word about policy. It seems to be the customary procedure, at least with a great many originators, to introduce each new seedling with a great bally hoo, with all the superlative adjectives Webster provides, initially priced just as high as it can be hoped to put it over, then followed up with recommendations galore, rosy trial reports and all the other high pressure methods at hand. Some descriptions almost make one feel that one has passed on, and is actually wandering thru the fields of asphodel. Others who stress size might well be picturing a grove of young Sequoia trees.

A very large percentage of new varieties fail to meet expectations for one reason or another. This happens even to our most distinguished originators. We all remember Blue Triumphator at \$400 each and Lactinatus that was said to have started at \$1,000 and many, many others on down the line that were so very disappointing.

It is my intention to go about the marketing of my originations in a most unorthodox manner. First in describing to avoid superlatives and stick just as closely to plain facts as possible. Second: Not to make use of flamboyant, expensive or unnecessary advertising, wasteful of both your money and mine. Third: To price introductions in reason with the realization that while each honest originator feels sure that every one will reach the "Glad" Hall of Fame very few really do. Fourth: Not to spend countless hours and all that it entails nurturing specimens to unnatural or should I say unusual or extraordinary growth for the sole purpose of collecting a drawer full of blue ribbons and competing against the very customers I expect to purchase my stock.

Any "Glad" that I ever put on the market must win acclaim thru its own merits alone or be relegated to the limbo of the forgotten.

MICHAELLOTTE—former seedling No. 38G34A again came thru uniformly fine. Grown on trial in Winnipeg, it produced 16 bud spikes, formal type with six open at once, bottom floret 7½ inches (Photo). The largest bloom for me here this year was Big Top (well over 8 inches). Ethel Cave Cole consistently fine for floral work. Intruder outdid all the deep full reds. Genghis Kahn grew the most nearly perfect spike, tho Bengasi surpassed everything in beauty of color. Ogarita was very tall and fine and Margurite lovely but not quite as tall. Col. Maid, Silentum, Rosa Van Lima, Snow Princess and Maid of Orleans all still fine cutters and King Lear aways in demand with the florists. Mrs. Marks Memory unusually good this year which was pleasantly surprising as it has been very tempermental for me. Oriental Pearl bloomed here for the first time from small bulbs and was breath taking, if it lives up to its initial performance here it will be away out in front of everything in its color class, Hiawatha, Patrician, Christine, Phantom Beauty and other late releases we have not bloomed here; but according to all reports these four at least are positively must haves.

## GUARANTEE

Stock guaranteed to be free of disease and insects at the time of shipment, thrifty and true to name.

Occasional errors are humanly possible, therefore, if any of the bulbs shall be found not as represented I will replace them, together with something extra to compensate for disappointments; or refund your money; BUT in no case will I be held responsible beyond the actual purchase price of the bulbs. Fine exhibition blooms are the result of a combination of superior heredity with perfect environment during growth; as I have no control over cultural treatment, fertility, climatic conditions, etc. No guarantee as to final results can be given however, great care has been taken to insure each bulb being clean, vigorous and true to name, ready under the proper conditions to produce for you some truly magnificent blossoms.

## TERMS

Orders from \$1 to \$3, cash in full with the order, orders of \$3 and over, 25% with the order and the balance before shipment or shipment can be made C. O. D. if you prefer. Please do not order for less than \$1 as the sorting, packing and postage make such orders unprofitable. Extra counts in proportion to the earliness and the size of the order. As stock of most varieties is strictly limited, early ordering will insure better selections and avoid disappointments, and I will show my appreciation with more liberal overcount and offer a bulb or two of the newer and more expensive sorts.

## CULTURE

Do not plant Gladiolus too near buildings, trees or shrubbery. Plant larger size bulbs not less than 6 inches apart, either in rows or in beds for maximum results, if in rows, the rows should be not less than eighteen inches apart. Plant six inches deep in light soils or three inches deep in heavy soils. The better the ground is prepared and the more plant food applied (preferably well rotted manure, cow manure if available) well mixed in, the fall before planting if possible, the finer your blooms will be, provided you cultivate frequently and plenty of water is forthcoming especially when they are spiking.

## THRIPS

These tiny creatures will if once established, ruin your blooms no matter how well grown. Some people have grown Gladioli for years without being bothered by this pest, but they are simply fortunate. Don't take chances, start with clean bulbs, treat before planting and spray regularly during growth. If your bulbs are at all diseased, I recommend corrosive sublimate treatment before planting in the spring, one ounce to seven gallons of warm water as a solution in which to soak the corms overnight.

Now about varieties. Remember it costs just as much in time, money and labor to raise an out-dated, worthless variety as it does to raise a good one. Why not get rid of the worthless ones and get started with the better sorts, adding a few of the newer ones each year. Many of the older ones are still tops, but some are being replaced each year by better ones to keep your garden up to date, try as many new ones as you can find room and time for.

## PRICE LIST

MICHAELLOTTE—Formerly my seedling No. 38G32A (Tunias Triumph X Picardy) a brilliant red color almost identical to Aflame but with wide open florets. Very large florets, vigorous plant, extremely prolific. A good rugged red priced reasonably. \$2.50 each, bulblets 10c each.

Color prints or transparencies for projection will be sent to responsible interested parties on request. These show relative values much better than any word description.


	One dozen at 10 times single price			
	Large	Med.	Small	Bulblets
ALADDIN (Palmer) Beautiful ruffled bright salmon red with cream throat .....	8c			
AMERICAN COMMANDER (New) Tall, large, vigorous red .....	8c			
APRICOT MODEL (Wilson) Large Dec. Apricot colored, crooks in hot sun. Jumbo bulbs	10c			
AVE. MARIA (Pfizer) Medium blue with purplish blotch, an old favorite, much in demand .....	7c			
BADGER BEAUTY (Kreuger) Very fine new lavender, not too large but a real beauty. ....	15c	10c	7c	\$1.25 per 100
BAGDAD (Palmer) Smoky rose. Large, very fine. ....	6c			
BEAUTIFUL DREAM (Canine) Immense new pink. Crooks badly. ....	7c			
BEACON (Palmer) Salmon scarlet with creamy throat, tall. many open at once. Still tops and one of the most beautiful ever grown. ....	6c			
BENGASI (Cave) Large light pink. The most talked of new Glad. ....	\$5	\$4	\$3	60c each
BLACK OPAL (Erry. Australia) Tall deep red. The famous exhibition red from down under the world. ....	7c			
BLAZE — Large bright red. Good cutter. ....	6c	5c	3c	\$2.50 Qt.
BERTY SNOW Old time favorite, lavender. ....	5c			
BUCKEYE BRONZE (Wilson) Very fine bronze rose colored glad. ....		12c		
BLUE BEAUTY (Pfizer) Best of all the blues to date. ....	6c			
BURMA (Palmer) Very deep rose red, heavily ruffled. ....		35c	25c	4c each
BIG TOP (Rich) Very tall, large, light pink. ....	15c	12c	8c	
BETTY NUTHALL (Salsbach) Warm coral pink with pale yellow throated blooms, many open at once, tall, strong stem. ....	6c			
BINGO (Glad-A-Way Gardens) Cream white and rose. Sport of Picardy. Something different and outstanding. ....	6c			
CANDYHEART — Swell pink, blotched throat. ....		6c	3c	
COLONIAL MAID (Young) Tall, straight plant with very beautiful lavender florets, lightly pencilled. ....	6c			
CORONA — Large cream flesh and pink. ....		10c	8c	
CHRISTINE (Cave) New giant marble white. A very few bulblets while available. ....				75c each
ETHEL CAVE COLE (Cave) A wonderful pink, perfect placement, great substance. ....	7c	6c	4c	
FLAMING SWORD - Brick red. ....	5c			
GENGHIS KAHN (Scheer) Large ruffled pure pink, a real beauty. ....	\$1.25	\$1	60c	15c each
GOLDEN CHIMES—Fine large creamy yellow, somewhat ruffled. ....	6c			
GOLDEN DREAM (Prestgard) Late yellow, tall, strong grower, florets clear yellow, medium size. rose bud shaped. ....	5c			
GOLDEN POPPY (Groff) A buff yellow that distinctly different in color as well as placement. ....	5c			

## PRICE LIST — Continued

	One dozen at 10 times single price			
	Large	Med.	Small	Bulblets
HARVEST MOON (Jack) Outstanding large clear yellow. ....	7c			
HAWKEYE RED (Heaton) Handsome red sport of Vagabond Prince. ....	50c	40c	20c	4c each
HIGH FINANCE (Wilson) Excellent large grey smoky. ....	12c			1c each
HIAWATHA (Dr. Graff) Large new scarlet. Very tall and straight. (A few bulblets while they last. ....				\$1.25
ISOLA BELLA — Light pinkish lavender. ....	6c			
INTRUDER (Graff) King of the deep reds. ....	\$3	\$2	\$1	25c each
JUNIOR MISS (Canine) Large formal salmon pink. Good commercial. ....	15c	12c	10c	25c-100
KING ARTHUR (Palmer) Lovely ruffled mauve. Too short flower head. ....	7c			
KING LEAR (Palmer) A dandy purple wine red. Silver edged. ....	7c			
KING WILLIAM (Schensetsky) Apricot Salmon with cream throat, some say better than Picardy. ....		5c		
MAID OF ORLEANS (Pfizer) Milky white with barely discernable cream tint in the throat. Probably the best all round white grown in quantity today. ....	6c			
MARGARET FULTON — Old time favorite pink. ....	6c			
MARGARET BEATON (Twomey) Very tall beautiful white with small throat blotch. Fine cutter. ....	8c			
MASTER MYRON — Giant red. ....	8c			
MAX REGER — Fine orchid blue. ....	6c			
MISS BLOOMINGTON (Kundred) Very early, tall straight, light yellow. A dandy. ....	6c			
MOTHER KADEL (Kadel) Fine clear yellow. ....	10c	8c		
MRS. MARKS MEMORY (Pfizer) Much praised purple. Comes wine-red for me. ....	10c			
OGARITA (Wilson) Extremely tall rose salmon, creamy throat. Very good. ....	15c	10c	5c	
ORIENTAL PEARL (Carlson) The wonder flower of 1946. Very large, light cream apparently has everything and no faults. ....	\$5	\$4	\$3	60c each
PARADISE (Pruitt) Light apricot, medium height, very highly recommended. ....	5c			
PHANTOM BEAUTY (Bastian) New large light formal pink of exceptional promise. (A very few bulblets while available.) ....				\$1.25
Picardy (Palmer) The old champion of salmon pink. ....	7c			
PELEGRINA (Pfizer) Finest of the real blue blues. ....	5c			
PATRICIAN — Probably destined to be the greatest lavender glad ever grown (Bulblets if available.) ....				\$1.50
PARNASSUS — Very good purple. ....	8c	7c	5c	
POLAR ICE — Paper white. Early. ....	5c			
PURPLE BEAUTY — Open faced, good cutter. ....	7c			
PURPLE SUPREME (Wilson) Newest tall purple. ....	20c	15c	10c	75c per 100
PACIFICA (Wheeler) One of the best of the newer whites. ....	8c	6c	4c	
ROSA VAN LIMA — Early light rose, a dandy. Fine florist flower. ....	6c			
SENSATION (Marshall) Huge deep pink, hard to beat. ....	10c			
SHIRLEY TEMPLE (Pruitt) Immense ruffled cream with somewhat deeper tinted throat, very strong grower and altho it crooks its still a beauty. ....	6c			
SILENTUM — A swell commercial white with small carmine marking. Straight as a string. ....	7c			
SNOW PRINCESS (Pfizer) Improved Maid of Orleans. ....	7c			
TAKINA (Burns, New Zealand) A giant rose purple, looks like a huge rose. ....	6c			
TOKEN (Crow-Pappas) Flaming salmon with creamy yellow throat, somewhat ruffled, good substance. ....	5c			
TREASURY GOLD (Wilson) Giant golden salmon orange. ....	8c			
R. B. (Palmer-Upton) A fine smoky. ....	8c			
REWI FALLU (Fallu) Massive blood red. ....	6c			
WANDA — Cream, Sport of Picardy. Enough said. ....	7c			
WINGS OF SONG (Ellis) Large rose pink, lighter throat, a real dandy. ....	8c			
WHITE GOLD (Scheer) Very large early cream. ....	12c	10c	6c	
VISTA BONITA (Ellis) Large pink, very heavy. ....	7c			

WILL QUOTE ON BULBLETS ON REQUEST IF WE HAVE WHAT YOU WANT

IF YOU find my corms a superior product, please recommend them to your friends—  
Yours for success with GLADIOLI, the FLOWER SUPREME !

 Join a "Glad" Society — have your friends join NOW . . . There is no greater bargain in all the "Glad" world than a membership in the New England Glad Society

# *Join* THE NEW ENGLAND GLADIOLUS SOCIETY

There Are Thousands of Enthusiastic Members to Welcome You!

*Grow Gladiolus for Fun and Profit*



THE NEW ENGLAND GLADIOLUS SOCIETY, organized in 1920 was incorporated 1935 as a non-profit educational institution. For three years memberships have averaged over four thousand, representing every state, all the Canadian provinces and many other countries.

"THE GLADIOLUS," a bound book of more than 225 pages, is published each year with cultural, experimental, varietal and news articles from many sources — one of the outstanding horticultural books of the year, designed to serve the novice as well as the expert — has been published for over two decades.

"THE GLADIOLUS MAGAZINE" is published with seasonal information, in February, April, July, September, October, and December.

You, too, can grow beautiful flowers for your work bench, office, home and church. Sign and mail the application blank now. Make gardening your hobby and join this friendly group of flower growers.

## BE A MEMBER! — GET A MEMBER!



## N. E. G. S. Membership Means

1. You belong to as friendly a flower society as exists in the world.
2. You belong to one of the largest flower societies in the world (we did not say horticultural societies). Only one has been larger.
3. Your society has for four years held a membership between thirty-six hundred and fifty-five hundred, and has had to replace with domestic members many of the eight hundred to nine hundred who, prior to the war and exchange restrictions, were members resident outside the U. S. A.
4. *You belong to a non-profit society — actually, we are incorporated as a Massachusetts charitable corporation.* We do, however, operate with a favorable balance of income above expenses; and during the past four years built up an adequate reserve fund. (Non-assessable membership).
5. In the past eight years, under the cooperative plan of affiliation, the so-called *North American Gladiolus Affiliation* has grown to include about thirty societies (four of them in Canada); not including two societies formerly counted which are now dormant. *Your membership card assures you a welcome from coast to coast — at the meetings and at the exhibitions of any of these societies or their chapters.* (There are also about twelve chapters of societies in the affiliated group).
6. You receive the benefit of this society's contacts and cooperation with many horticultural and other flower societies and cooperation which N. E. G. S. receives from state and federal agricultural departments.
7. You are assured contact with the cream of commercial growers who sell at retail. We believe in our advertisers. In our work we make some mistakes; they may make some — please advise us about our mistakes and if you complain to any of our advertisers about bulbs sent you please send us a copy of your letter.
8. If you are a sustaining member (*we should like to have two hundred members who can afford to pay five dollars a year for membership and will do it*) you encourage the Officers and Trustees.
9. If you are a Regular Member you are pulling your own weight, especially if you renew promptly from year to year, but you still have responsibilities as a member.
10. You belong to a thoroughly democratic organization — all members have an equal voice and are invited to present their viewpoint.
11. You are in touch with gladiolus work throughout the world. In one of our Magazine issues we quoted members in South Rhodesia, South Africa, New South Wales, and West Australia; Holland and England. You and your friends will appreciate N.E.G.S. publications just as these members do, they are all amazed at such value for such small cost. Your neighbors or your friends in distant parts of the world will be pleased too when you give a birthday or Christmas membership, or enlist them as members.
12. You belong to one of the largest flower societies (a) whose publications are regarded by leading horticultural authorities as being of very high quality; (b) which has its own color chart, a real distinction; (c) which has advanced its flower classification and judging and registration and other standards from year to year; (d) which has participated actively in general horticultural conferences and movements; (e) which has initiated many movements of benefit to the Gladiolus advancement, including the annual N.E.G.S. National Gladiolus Conference (from which has come National Trial Gardens, and National Classification).



## Membership Means Also

1. That you should voice your opinions on N. E. G. S. operations. You are privileged to criticize and praise your officers and the society. You may nominate members for the elective offices. You may recommend members for Special Awards and for Honorary Membership and for the offices of Honorary Vice-President.

2. You may address enquiries regarding Culture, etc., *to the Secretary*; please send enquiry in duplicate as many are sent to other members or (volunteer) officers to be answered; and enclose self-addressed, stamped envelope for reply.

3. Letters describing your experiences as a novice, amateur, or commercial grower will be appreciated — many of our contributors have developed from enthusiastic members willing to pass along information.

4. You should try to make the *Every Member Got a Member List* each year. We continue to maintain a wide membership because our members and advertisers help N. E. G. S. get new members each year. The normal turnover annually is at least twenty per cent, some societies run up to forty per cent. With five thousand or more members, we lose some by death, some move to a new home with less garden space, and some may be lost for other reasons.

You, as a member, should help and strenuously support the movement *Every Member Get a New Member Each Year*.

5. You should try to exhibit your best blooms at your local garden club show, at your state Gladiolus society show, and at the N. E. G. S. Boston Exhibition.

6. You may be able to submit articles and photographs to N. E. G. S. for publication. We have a number of well qualified experts to pass on and shape up written material and to select photographs. If you submit material you will have helped a lot.

7. You can help us with many of our continuing projects: (a) Parent-ages — we want additions and corrections; (b) Originators — we want additions and corrections; (c) Recent Introductions — we want additions and corrections; (d) Classifications — we want additions and corrections; (e) Advertisers — sure we want additions.

8. Research is never completed — what do you know about Colchicine, Rootone, Vitamin B, etc.; diseases; Insect Pests; Sprays; Fertilizers; Hybridizing; Germination and Culture of Corms and Cormlets and Seed; hardy Gladiolus, doubles, new forms?

9. Members comments too — "Congratulations for the most breezy, friendly, and informative Magazine since I've been a member (5 years); the darn thing's almost human. I wouldn't swap it for the Year Book; keep it up, its great." P. K. Paterson, N. J.

"I like your magazine very much. It will give help and encouragement during the growing season." Grinnell, Iowa.

"Let me again, as a member of the New England Gladiolus Society, express my appreciation for the fine work you are doing in the publications of the Society." A. J. B., Lexington, Ky.

"To those who work so conscientiously to make the N.E.G.S. what it is—I send my thankful appreciation and complete satisfaction for a job well done." R. E. C., Riverside, California.

10. That we want your neighbors as members, too; please send for more of these Join Up pamphlets and pass them along to your garden friends.

# GLADIOLUS CULTURE FOR BEGINNERS

Prepared by the New England Gladiolus Society

**1. Bulbs** — You want sound, clean bulbs and N.E.G.S. advertisers may be relied upon to supply them. Inform them at once of any real or fancied complaint — a copy to N.E.G.S. please.

**2. Dip** — Bulbs should be dipped for disease control. Kills thrips too, and can provide a protective coat against infection from soil-borne diseases or spread of disease from infected small diseased areas on bulbs. Bichloride of Mercury (1-1000 solution,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  tablespoonsful to six gallons of water for 17 hours). New Improved Ceresan for bulbs requires only 15 minutes and is used 1 ounce plus 3 teaspoon measures duPont (Grasselli) Spreader-Sticker to 3 gallons of water. Lysol is effective against thrips ( $1\frac{1}{2}$  tablespoonsful per gallon of water for 3 hours) —

so are other phenols, like 1 teaspoon Cresol Solution Compound (U.S.P. XI) with each quart of water — three hours soak just before planting. *Read complete and detailed instructions before using any dips — they are poisons.*

Plant immediately after any dip.

**3. Soil** — Gladiolus, like vegetables, must receive full sun most of the day and require similar conditions. Rotate your planting — use cover crops, and have your soil tested. A good seed bed gives best results. Glads grow well easily but prefer a slightly acid, sandy loam of pH about 6.5. Have your soil analyzed by a qualified Field Station — you can test acidity yourself. Soil should be plowed or spaded to a depth of at least eight inches and worked until entirely free of clods. Home plantings should avoid proximity to building, heavy rooted

plants, trees, etc.

**3. Planting** — May be started as early in the spring as soil is dry and friable; may be continued in some climates until July 1. Planting continued over a long period, blooming season will be correspondingly long. Early planted bulbs usually produce best bloom. Bulbs sprouted in storage, should be planted before the sprouts are more than one inch long. Depth to plant varies with size of bulb and type of soil; large bulbs from four to six inches deep, shallow in heavy soils and deeper in light soils.

Plant small bulbs from two to three inches deep. If bulbs are planted deeply, especially in light soils, spikes will be less

likely to require support at blooming time. Early planting before May 15 *must* be shallow. Large bulbs should be planted six or eight inches apart in rows, and small bulbs two or three inches apart. Rows may be from 18 to 30 inches apart. If bulbs have sprouted in storage, care should be taken to avoid injury to sprouts and rootlets.

**4. Fertilizing** — Never plant gladiolus bulbs in contact with manure. Well-rotted manure, turned under in the fall, is beneficial and will not



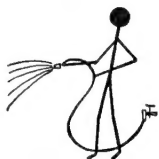
damage bulbs planted next spring. Manure also can be used to advantage as a top dressing after bulbs have been planted. Most gladiolus are grown with mixed fertilizers. Some formulas used are 4-8-5, 5-8-7 and 4-12-4, applied at rates between 1,500 and 2,000 pounds per acre; roughly equivalent to from three pounds to four pounds per 100 feet of row. If only one application is made, it should be applied at planting

time. After bulbs have been set in trench and the trench then filled with soil, spread fertilizer uniformly in row and cover with remaining soil. Some leave trench partly open to heat ground quicker. Most growers prefer to apply half the fertilizer at planting time and the



remainder as a top dressing about six weeks later. This later application should be made close to row, without allowing fertilizer to touch plants; water well to let fertilizer reach roots in solution.

**5. Cultivate** your gladiolus frequently enough to keep soil loose and free of weeds. Cultivate soil after each rain or watering to keep surface from baking. Don't cultivate too deeply; two inches is deep enough and will not disturb roots.



**6. Watering** — For best performance, gladiolus require plenty of water, especially during the four or five weeks before they bloom or after fourth or fifth leaf shows, and stem begins to thicken. From then until blooming time ground should be kept moist to secure the finest and most luxuriant blooms. If rainfall is insufficient give them a thorough watering every week or ten days. This means at least an inch of

water over the entire garden. Side dress with fertilizer now.

**7. Spraying** should have been started early when your plants were six inches high and should be repeated weekly during blooming season to control thrips (adults are small black insects about one-sixteenth inch long). U. S. Dept. Agric. recommends a proven spray, Tartar emetic — brown sugar solution, which does not burn gladiolus foliage; formula: with three gallons of water is ten teaspoonsful of brown

sugar (2 oz.) and  $4\frac{1}{2}$  level teaspoon measures of tartar emetic (1 oz.). There are molasses and syrup formulae available as sugar substitutes.



**Salp** — Sodium antimony lactophenolate is an effective insecticide substitute. Various arsenic sprays are effective but can burn foliage. Paris Green is somewhat harmful, magnesium is least harmful of these. For three gallons water, two pounds brown sugar, use one tablespoonful of Paris Green or two tablespoonsful of lead arsenate or magnesium arsenate. Any of these mixtures should be used within twenty-four hours,

before sugar begins to ferment.

Spray material should be applied as a fine mist, with a high pressure sprayer. Thrips damage occurs long before spikes emerge from the plant. If you started late to spray (when plants were nearly ready to bloom) or if you see silvered foliage damage or actual thrips (young are orange yellow) you should spray three times at three-day intervals, every two weeks to be sure you cover thrips life cycles. If rain washes spray from plants it is necessary to repeat. D.D.T. sprays are still in experimental stages.

**Dusting** — Prof. E. I. McDaniel "One season's field experiments indicate 5% DDT as dust will control gladiolus thrips" etc.



**8. Bloom** — For cut flowers, gladiolus spikes should be cut, preferably in the morning, and when only one or two florets are open. Always allow five leaves to remain on the plant to mature the new bulb. Use a sharp knife for cutting in a slanting motion; trim off end of the spike, quarter or half inch each day to keep the pores clear until all buds have opened. Use a clean

container and change to fresh water daily; spikes will last for a week or longer as cut flowers. Learn how to use tips for corsages, floating and other table arrangements.

**9. Treatment After Blooming** — The gladiolus planting should be kept free of weeds. Watering may be discontinued except in cases of extreme drouth. Spraying may be discontinued unless thrips are present here or in nearby blooming area. An occasional shallow cultivation will be beneficial to bulb and bulblet growth.



**10. Digging the Bulbs** — Gladiolus which bloom in July (Northern section) may require six or eight weeks to mature new bulbs, but those blooming in September will bring maturity in four weeks. Bulbs should al-

ways be dug before foliage becomes yellow or brown, indicating stopped growth. Always dig bulbs when soil is dry (if possible) or they will be difficult to clean and cure.

Loosen bulbs with a digging fork or spade and lift bulbs by the foliage. Cut tops off close to bulbs; remove any adhering soil after bulbs have been exposed for a short time and place the bulbs and bulblets in wooden trays or clean paper bags, marking each container with name of variety. When tops have dried, rake up and burn.

**11. Curing and Cleaning Bulbs** — Remove the bulbs to a warm, dry place as soon as they are dug. If you use paper bags, open bags to allow bulbs to dry. If necessary protect against frost.



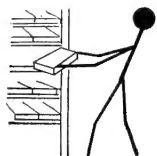
After a period of from three to five weeks, depending on temperature of storage room, bulbs will be ready to be cleaned. When properly dried, the old bulb is easily broken away from base of new bulb, leaving a clean scar. Leave husks on bulbs as protection during storage. If you wish to save bulblets, separate them from old bulb roots and soil, and place them in separate, labeled, paper bags.

Place cleaned bulbs in original trays or bags, and allow them to remain in a warm room three or four weeks longer, in order that they be thoroughly cured; then place in winter storage. Ideal storage is dry and maintained at temperature between 35 and 45 degrees. Any thrips remaining on bulbs will not survive storage at these low temperatures.



If your storage room is warm, it may be desirable to treat your cured bulbs with naphthalene flakes to destroy thrips. These insects will multiply rapidly on bulbs in warm storage, and may cause serious injury to bulbs before spring. Don't allow your bulbs to remain in contact with naphthalene fumes longer than three weeks, in a fairly warm room, after which bulbs must be carefully

cleaned to remove all traces of naphthalene; don't allow naphthalene flakes to touch bulbs. New roots starting will be seriously damaged by naphthalene remaining until spring. After any dusting treatment in warm temperature 65°-75°, bulbs should be returned to low temperature storage. Bulb trays should be checked from time to time during storage; any bulbs showing any sign of disease should be destroyed.



*Dusting with D.D.T.* — Gladiolus thrips on bulbs in storage have been controlled (eliminated) by using D.D.T. at rate of 1 oz. for each bushel (40 lbs.) of dry corms. Powder containing D.D.T. 1%-10% scattered on the corms when thoroughly dry will eliminate thrips and D.D.T. will not injure bulbs or blooms.

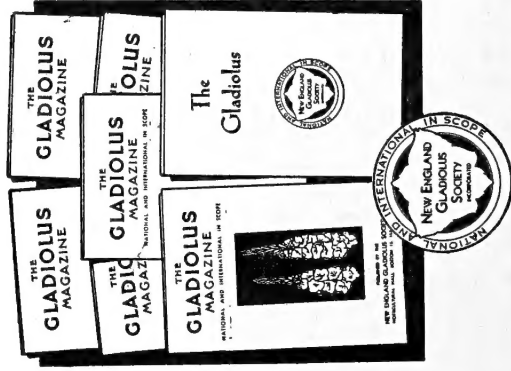
Treated corms need not be disturbed until planting as D.D.T. exposure has not had adverse effect on keeping quality or germination. Sufficient D.D.T. dust should be used to coat the dry corms.

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